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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GUNJI et al.

Application No.: 09/926,299

Filing Date: October 9, 2001

For: L-AMINO ACID PRODUCING
BACTERIUM AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCING L-AMINO ACID

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Steadman, David J.

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1310

Confirmation No.: 4922

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2006, which set a 3-month shortened statutory period for response thereto, please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 9.